

Bradley C. Birkhimer

8831 Lane Scott Ct., Manassas, VA 20110

bradleyb_23@hotmail.com

cell: 571.606.8468

<http://www.bradleybirkhimer.com/>

Intent

My professional experiences as a studio potter, educator, and technical coordinator have provided me with an extensive, global perspective of the innovation and diverse community involved in the ceramic arts. The urge to share my extensive knowledge leads me to apply for a challenging position as an Assistant Professor of Ceramics.

Education

MFA in Ceramics, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 2002-2006

Certificate of Completion, West Virginia University and Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute International Ceramic Studio, Jingdezhen, Jiangxi Province, P. R. of China, 2004 Fall Semester

BFA in Ceramics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 1999-2002

Emphasis in Studio Arts, Otterbein College, Westerville, OH, 1997-1999

Teaching and Professional Experience

Adjunct Professor, Hand-building and Wheel Thrown Ceramics, Hood College, Frederick, MD, 2010-Present

Instructor of ARTS 203 Ceramics I, ARTS 303 Beginning, ARTS 343 Intermediate, and ARTS 503 Graduate Intensive Wheel Throwing courses, as well as guiding senior ceramic majors in their research through independent study. Instructor for 15-27 students, per semester, of all ages, ethnicity, and educational backgrounds. Teach introductory skills in pinching, East Asian coil, hard and soft slab construction, figure sculpture, surface decoration, glaze and clay composition, ceramic art history, and various firing methods in my Ceramics I course. My wheel courses include wedging, throwing, shaping, trimming, drying, glazing, electric and gas firing, and composition. I

also incorporate information about clay, clay preparation, surface finishing, glazes, glazing techniques and kiln technology. The independent study research has covered mold making, slip casting, advance throwing and sculpting, glaze testing, and kiln technology.

Acting Director of Graduate Ceramic Arts Program, Hood College, Frederick, MD, 2012 Fall Semester

Manage all aspects related to operation of the graduate ceramic arts program through developing course syllabi and course proposals, serving on graduate council, advising students, recruiting prospective students, and holding critiques. Scheduled visiting artist workshops, community artist talks, and a ceramic arts exhibition. Defended our new MA program to the full faculty and succeeded.

Technical Coordinator, Department of Art and Archaeology, Hood College, Frederick, MD, 2012-2013

Responsible for overseeing the technical needs of the ceramic arts programs for both undergraduate and graduate levels. This includes the ceramic arts concentration for the major and minor in studio arts, the Graduate Certificate, the MA, and the MFA in Ceramic Arts. The Technical Coordinator assists undergraduate and graduate students, adjunct and full time faculty with technical aspects in all instructional areas of the ceramic arts program including departmental operations, safety and environmental practice, oversight of equipment essential to the operation of the ceramic arts program including: 10 electric kilns, 17 wheels, 2 pug mills, clay mixer, ball mill, gas fired raku kilns, 2 gas fired reduction kilns, and a soda kiln. Also responsible for ordering equipment parts and maintaining necessary inventory.

Owner Bradley B Pottery, 8831 Lane Scott Ct, Manassas, VA, 2006-Present

Manage all aspects of the pottery business from the creation of ceramic work, sales and marketing, web page development, advertising, inventory, purchasing, accounting, financial controls, and consultation with clients. Client services include efficient studio design and layout, equipment selection and purchase, construction and installation of kilns, shelving and tables, clay/glaze labs.

Ceramic Equipment Consultant, Prince William County Schools, Manassas, VA,
2011-Present

Provide instruction and advice, as a consultant, on the ceramic art studio equipment for the elementary, middle and high schools, working directly with the county art supervisor and the art teachers. Consultation typically includes the following equipment: kilns, pottery wheels, slab rollers, and extruders. Responsibilities include advice in the use, maintenance, and diagnostic evaluations, ordering parts, installation of new parts, and developing new safety and user guidelines for art teachers.

Ceramic Teaching Assistant, Two Week Throwing Intensive, Penland School of Crafts,
Penland, NC, 2011 Summer Session

Assisted in teaching 12 students in concentration of intermediate and advanced wheel throwing techniques including tableware, hand building, altering, and slab construction. Further teaching through demonstrations, a slide talk, glaze application and surface decorating techniques, kiln technology and gas firings (salt and soda).

Lecture/Presentation, WVU/Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute Ceramic Program, Lee Arts
Center, Arlington, VA, 2010

I was invited to speak to the Washington Kiln Club about the WVU/JCI Ceramic Exchange program and my ceramic artwork. Discussed the totality of the exchange program and my influences from living, working, studying, and my travel experiences in China.

Ceramic Instructor, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton, VA, 2010-2011

Instructor of beginning, intermediate, and advance wheel throwing. My wheel classes include wedging, throwing, shaping, trimming, drying, glazing, electric firing and composition. I also incorporated information about clay, clay preparation, surface finishing, glazes, glazing techniques and kiln technology. I also volunteered with the production and distribution of handmade bowls in support of an Ice Cream Social to raise funds for our program.

Ceramic Instructor, Touchstone Center for Crafts, Farmington, PA, 2009

Instructor of beginning, intermediate, and advance wheel throwing focusing on tableware through form and surface. Tableware was created using traditional wheel techniques and contemporary form and surface treatments. Forms were developed through alterations and expanding the subtleties through proportions, line, and containment. Surfaces were enhanced through surface decoration techniques of applied slip, trailing, brushwork, and ash glazes. Work was completed through firing a cone 10 reduction gas kiln.

Lecture/Presentation, Point of Passage, The Pottery Workshop, Jingdezhen, Jiangxi Province, P.R. of China, 2009

Presented an extensive overview of my work in the ceramic arts from undergraduate to present time. Discussed specific influences of Chinese architecture and the subtleties that enhance my forms, as well as experiences from my two trips to China as a graduate student and artist.

Studio Technician and Visiting Artist, WVU/Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute

International Ceramic Studio, Jingdezhen, Jiangxi Province, P.R. of China, 2008-2009

Managed all aspects related to operation of Ceramics Studio, classroom facilities and ceramic equipment, including the building of new soda kiln. Responsible for training and overseeing students, visiting artists, and faculty in loading and firing kilns, and use of ceramic equipment. Responsible for clay and glaze research, general studio maintenance, inventory and ordering of all supplies, materials, and the service and maintenance of kilns and other equipment. Instructed undergraduate and graduate students through their independent research with the traditional techniques they were learning.

Lecture/Presentation and Throwing Demonstration, WVU/Jingdezhen Ceramic

Institute International Ceramic Studio, Jingdezhen, Jiangxi Province, P.R. of China, 2008

Presented a slide talk of my current ceramic art work and spoke directly about the techniques I was using to create and finish the work. Conducted a classroom demonstration of my forms and techniques to students of the program and the university.

Ceramic Instructor, Touchstone Center for Crafts, Farmington, PA, 2008

Instructor of beginning, intermediate, and advance wheel throwing focusing on tableware through old and new forms. Tableware was created using traditional wheel techniques and contemporary form and surface treatments. Forms were developed through alterations and expanding the subtleties through proportions, line, and containment. Surfaces were enhanced through surface decoration techniques of applied slip, trailing, brushwork, wax-resist, and atmospheric glazes. Work was completed through firing a cone 10 reduction gas kiln.

Studio Assistant/Technician, WVU Production Studio, Morgantown, WV, 2006 Fall Semester

Assisted in the operation of the production studio, which includes creating pieces using the jigger jolly, trimming, handling, clay and glaze preparation, glazing and surface decoration, and bisque and gas firing. Work produced was sold through wholesaling and direct sales, which included bi-annual studio sales and local art shows. I also performed repairs and upgrades to the ceramic equipment.

Adjunct Professor, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 2006 Summer Semester

Instructor of Ceramics I course. Taught introductory skills in pinching, coiling, hard and soft slab construction, wheel throwing, surface decoration, glaze and clay composition, ceramic art history, and electric, pit fire, and gas firing methods.

Graduate Assistant, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 2005-2006

Teacher of record for university students learning wheel throwing, hand building, glaze application, and basic firing principles and practice. Instruction and responsibilities included demonstrations, slide presentations, loading and firing kilns, leading critiques, assigning grades, and developing syllabi.

Gallery Assistant, Mesaros Galleries, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 2003-2006

Assistant to gallery director for the installation of exhibitions. Responsibilities include gallery preparation, matting, and show layout. Worked directly with artists and visiting artists of the art department to capture their intent for their show.

Production Assistant, WVU Production Studio, Morgantown, WV, 2003-2004 Summer Semesters

Assisted in the operation of the production studio, which includes creating pieces using the jigger jolly, trimming, handling, clay and glaze preparation, glazing and surface decoration, and bisque and gas firing. The selling of work through wholesaling and direct sales was also performed through our biannual studio sale and local art shows. I also helped create a new pizza stone mold for a pizza business in New York City.

Lecture/Presentation and Throwing Demonstration, Craft Center, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 2003

Presented an overview of my current ceramic artwork and spoke directly about the techniques I was using to create and finish the work. Provided a classroom demonstration of my forms and techniques to community students.

Honors and Awards

Workshop Grant, Appalachian Regional Commission's Enhanced Distressed Counties and the Tamarack Foundation business, Beckley, WV, 2008

Equipment Grant, Tamarack Foundation, Beckley, WV, 2008

Impact Grant, Steptoe & Johnson – Cyndi Jones and Arts Monongahela, Morgantown, WV, 2008

Best Booth Design Award, Mountaineer Week Arts and Craft Show, Juried/Retail, Morgantown, WV 2007

Full Tuition Scholarship, College of Creative Arts, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 2003-2006

Global Education Opportunity Award, College of Creative Arts, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 2004

Travel Grant, College of Creative Arts, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 2004

Student Award, Niche Magazine, Philadelphia, PA, 2003

Solo Exhibitions

Sacred Vessels, Gallery 831, Columbus, OH, 2012

Wood Fire Exhibition, Manassas Clay, Manassas, VA, 2011

Sacred Relationships, Zig Zag Gallery The Plains, VA, 2010

Wood Fire Exhibition, Manassas Clay, Manassas, VA, 2009

Sacred Relationships, c2 Gallery, Jingdezhen, Jiangxi Province, P.R. of China, 2009

Functional Evolution, MFA Thesis Exhibition, Laura Mesaros Gallery, Morgantown, WV, 2006

Invitational Exhibitions

Featured Artists Exhibit, Beck Gallery, The Elizabeth Lane Oliver Center for the Arts, Frankfort, MI, 2012

4th Annual Craftsman House Invitational Teapot Show, Craftsman House Gallery, St. Petersburg, FL, 2010

International Ceramics Exhibition, I Art Bank Gallery, Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, P.R. of China, 2009

Fire Works: A Celebration of Wood-Fired Ceramics, Ice House Gallery, Berkley Springs, WV, 2008

Spouting Off, Again, Gallery 423, Columbus, IN, 2008

WVU Former Grads, Washington St. Gallery, Lewisburg, WV, 2008

Art Tour, Arts Monongahela Gallery, Morgantown, WV, 2007

Consider the Cup, Artisan Gallery, Northampton, MA, 2007

National Exhibit, Washington St. Gallery, Lewisburg, WV, 2007

Influential Journeys, NCECA 2007, Melbourne Arts Center, Louisville, KY, 2007

Invitational Mug Show, Zenclay Galleries, Morgantown, WV, 2005

Ceramics, Zenclay Galleries, Morgantown, WV, 2003

Juried Exhibitions

Steep, Red Dot Gallery, Birmingham, AL, 2010

Strictly Functional Pottery National, Market House Craft Center, Lancaster, PA, 2008

100 Teapots III, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore, Maryland, 2006

Strictly Functional Pottery National, Market House Craft Center, Lancaster, PA, 2006

Group Exhibitions

Hood Studio Arts Faculty Show 2012, Hodson Gallery, Hood College, Fredrick, MD, 2012

Hood Visual Arts Faculty Show 2011, Hodson Gallery, Hood College, Fredrick, MD, 2011

Junction, Hodson Gallery, Hood College, Fredrick, MD, 2010

Hope for Ceramics, Gallery One, Jingdezhen, Jiangxi Province, P.R. of China, 2009

WVU/JCI/NCECA Art Exhibition, Robert P. Anderson Gallery, Jingdezhen, Jiangxi Province, P.R. of China, 2008

What You Will, Paul Mesaros Gallery, Morgantown, WV, 2005

Graduate Exhibition 2004, Laura Mesaros Gallery, Morgantown, WV, 2004

Art Tour, Tonique Trilogy, Morgantown, WV, 2003

Recognition in Publications

Ceramics for Beginners: Wheel Throwing by Emily Reason, Lark Books Publishing 2010, images on pp. 50 & 103

500 Plates & Chargers: Innovative Expressions of Function & Style. Lark Books Publishing 2008, juried by Linda Arbuckle, images on pp. 76 & 106

500 Pitchers, Lark Books Publishing 2006, juried by Terry Gess, images on pp. 65, 92, & 131

Juried Art Shows

2011 **Fairfax County Holiday Art Show**, Juried/Retail, Fairfax, VA

2011 **Fairfax Fine Arts Festival**, Juried/Retail, Fairfax, VA

2010 **American Craft Council (ACC) Show**, Juried/Retail, Atlanta, GA

2010 **Buyers Market of American Craft (Rosen Group)**, Juried/Wholesale,
Philadelphia, PA

2009 **Mountaineer Week Arts and Craft Show**, Juried/Retail, Morgantown, WV

2008 **Arts on the River**, Juried/Retail, Morgantown, WV

2008 **Sugarloaf Craft Festivals**, Juried/Retail, Chantilly, VA

2008 **American Craft Council (ACC) Show**, Juried/Retail, Atlanta, GA

2008 **Buyers Market of American Craft (Rosen Group)**, Juried/Wholesale,
Philadelphia, PA,

2007 **Mountaineer Week Arts and Craft Show**, Juried/Retail, Morgantown, WV

2007 **Buyers Market of American Craft (Rosen Group)**, Juried/Wholesale,
Philadelphia, PA

Gallery Representation

Craftsman House Gallery, St. Petersburg, FL

Crimson Laurel Gallery, Bakersville, NC

Fun Stuff Gallery, Birmingham, MI

Hallelujah Pottery, Monteagle, TN

Left Bank Gallery, Wellfleet, MA

Manassas Clay, Manassas, VA

New Discoveries, Chicago, IL

Silver Fox Gallery, Hendersonville, NC

Stewart's Village Gallery, Waxhaw, NC

The Art Store, Charleston, WV

The Cooley Gallery, Leesburg, VA

Washington Street Gallery, Lewisburg, WV

West Wind Potters, Harper's Ferry, WV

Zig Zag, The Plains, VA

References

Joyce Michaud
Associate Professor of Art
Director of the MFA and Graduate Certificate in Ceramic Arts
Hood College
Frederick, MD 21701
Office: 301.696.3526
jmichaud@hood.edu

Robert Anderson
Retired Professor of Art, Ceramics
West Virginia University
Former Director, WVU-JCI International Studios
Morgantown, WV 26506
Cell: 304-692-0777
banderspots@gmail.com

Jason Bohnert
Owner/Operator JB Pots
Associate Professor of Ceramics
Coconino Community College and
Associate Professor of Ceramics Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Home: 928.214.7178
jbpots@hotmail.com